

-- REMARKS --

The present amendment replies to an Office Action dated June 6, 2007. Claims 1-21 are pending in the present application. Claims 14-21 were withdrawn. Claim 1 has been amended and claims 22-24 added herein. Changes were made to the words “system” and “photodector” in claim 1 to correct minor typographical errors and not to avoid any cited reference. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-13 on various grounds. The Applicants respond to each ground of rejection as subsequently recited herein and requests reconsideration of the present application.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejections

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the . . . claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Thus, to warrant the §102(b) rejection, the references cited by the Examiner must show each and every limitation of the claims in complete detail. The Applicant respectfully asserts that the cited references fail to do so.

A. Claims 1-3 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,055,251 to Ouchi, *et al.* (the *Ouchi* patent).

The Applicants respectfully assert that the *Ouchi* patent fails to teach or suggest all the claim limitations of the rejected claims. The *Ouchi* patent fails to disclose, teach, or suggest a light source control system including at least one light source being at least one light emitting diode (LED), as recited in amended independent claim 1.

Claims 2, 3, and 5-7 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 1 and so include all the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. Therefore, the dependent claims include all the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. The Applicants respectfully

submit that dependent claims 2, 3, and 5-7 are allowable over the *Ouchi* patent for at least the same reasons as set forth above with respect to independent claim 1.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3 and 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the *Ouchi* patent is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art references when combined must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *See* MPEP 2143. To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). *See* MPEP 2143.03. The Applicants respectfully assert that the cited references fail to teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

B. Claims 4 and 8-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the *Ouchi* patent.

The Applicants respectfully assert that the *Ouchi* patent fails to teach or suggest all the claim limitations of the rejected claims. The *Ouchi* patent fails to disclose, teach, or suggest a light source control system including at least one light source being at least one light emitting diode (LED), as recited in amended independent claim 1.

Claims 4 and 8-13 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 1. Therefore, the dependent claims include all the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. The Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 4 and 8-13 are allowable over the *Ouchi* patent for at least the same reasons as set forth above with respect to independent claim 1.

Regarding dependent claim 9, the Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assertion that the *Ouchi* patent discloses a plurality of lock-in devices. As recited in independent claim 1, each lock-in system produces an intensity value of the light source based on the light signal and the reference signal. At most, the *Ouchi* patent discloses a single lock-in system:

October 5, 2007
Case No.: US020619 (7790/ 483)
Serial No.: 10/539,980
Filed: June 19, 2005
Page 9 of 10

only the circuit incorporating balanced modulators 411, 507, 614 is a lock-in system responsive to a light signal and reference signal. *See* Figures 13, 15, 16.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4 and 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the *Ouchi* patent is respectfully requested.

New Claims

Claims 22-24 have been added herein to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the Applicants' invention. Claims 22-24 are allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above for independent claim 1. No new matter has been added with the inclusion of claims 22-24, which are supported in the specification at least on pages 4 and 5.

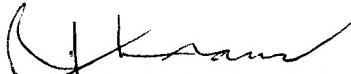
October 5, 2007
Case No.: US020619 (7790/ 483)
Serial No.: 10/539,980
Filed: June 19, 2005
Page 10 of 10

SUMMARY

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-13 and consideration of claims 22-24 is requested. The Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 3-6, and 8-10 fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§102, 103 and 112. In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application is respectfully requested.

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